UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,289	09/19/2001	Takehito Yamaguchi	50023-151	8152

20277 7590 11/30/2004		EXAMINER
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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	2157	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/955,289	YAMAGUCHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	El Hadji M Sall	2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _19 September 2004_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-14_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _11/24/04_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

1.   ***DETAILED ACTION***

This action is responsive to the application filed on September 9, 2001. Claims 1 - 14 are pending. Claims 1 - 14 represent business machine network terminal and business machine network information management system.

2.   ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3.   Claims 1-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cook U.S. 6,697,806.

Cook teaches the invention as claimed including access network authorization (see abstract).

As to claim 1, Cook teaches business machine network terminal providing services by transmitting and receiving data to/from other terminal including a different

function through a network and performing cooperative processing with the other
terminals, which comprising:

Service selecting means for selecting one of the services (column 10, lines 38-39,
Cook discloses the access server then receives a selection from a list of services);

Processing means for performing processing necessary for the selected service
(column 10, lines 39-40, Cook discloses the access server processes the selection to
generate an instruction to provide the service related to the selection); and

Processing information transmitting means for transmitting to an object terminal
the service information that is generated on the basis of the processing with the
processing means, and that is necessary for managing the terminals (column 10, lines
37-38, Cook discloses the access server transmits a list of services to a user system).

As to claim 2, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in
claim 1, wherein the service selecting means decides available services on the basis of
a list of the terminals necessary for the services and information on the terminals
connected to the network (column 14, lines 17-29, Cook discloses...access providers
provide a list of services that the user can select. With the list of services, the access
providers have the ability to advertise specific services users. The list of services may
be generated based on the user access profile to make the list user specific. Once the
user makes the selection, the access server 524 connects the user to the service
network such as Intranet, Internet, or private dedicated network that provides the
selected service).

As to claim 3, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in
claim 2, which further comprising:

Input means with which a user of the terminal can make an entry (abstract, Cook
discloses...the local database system receives a user logon...).

As to claim 4, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in
claim 1, wherein the service information includes information necessary for the charge

for the selected service (column 19, lines 63-66, Cook discloses A prepaid account code is any number that relates to a user's prepaid account. The prepaid account is debited against for the charges related to the access. Other charges related to the service provided may also be debited against the prepaid account).

As to claim 5, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in claim 4, which further comprising:

Processing information managing means for batch management of information on the processing performed by the terminals, which comes under the cooperative processing (column 21, lines 8-10, Cook discloses no bank cards have been used for access to data networks other than for batch bill payment).

As to claim 7, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in claim 4, wherein the object terminal is a business machine network terminal for batch management of information on the processing performed by the terminals, which comes under the cooperative processing (column 21, lines 8-10, Cook discloses no bank cards have been used for access to data networks other than for batch bill payment).

4.   *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 6, 8-10 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
unpatentable over Cook U.S. 6,697,806 in view of Schow U.S. 6,751,226.

Cook teaches the invention substantially as claimed including access network
authorization (see abstract).

As to claim 6, Cook teaches the business machine network terminal defined in
claim 4.

Cook fails to teach the object terminal is an information management server for
calculating management information on the basis of the service information.

However, Schow teaches the object terminal is an information management
server for calculating management information on the basis of the service information
(column 2, lines 48-51, Schow discloses To gather this information, the service
provider employs a network, management server, which is programmed to request,
process, and analyze information received from the locations being monitored).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to modify Cook in view of Schow to provide the object terminal is an
information management server for calculating management information on the basis of
the service information. One would be motivated to do so to allow information as to the
operating status of various portions of the managed frame network (abstract).

As to claim 8, Cook teaches a business machine network information
management system for providing services by transmitting and receiving data between
business machine network terminals through a network, and by performing cooperative
processing with the terminals, the terminals each having a function different from the
functions of the other terminals, wherein the business machine network terminal
comprises:

service selecting means for selecting one of the services (column 10, lines 38-39,
Cook discloses the access server then receives a selection from a list of services);

processing means for performing processing necessary for the selected service (column 10, lines 39-40, Cook discloses the access server processes the selection to generate an instruction to provide the service related to the selection);

processing information transmitting means for transmitting to an information management server the service information that is generated on the basis of the processing with the processing means, and that is necessary for managing the terminals (column 10, lines 37-38, Cook discloses the access server transmits a list of services to a user system).

Cook fails to teach the information management server comprises management information calculating means for calculating management information on the basis of the service information received from the terminals.

However, Schow teaches the information management server comprises management information calculating means for calculating management information on the basis of the service information received from the terminals (column 2, lines 48-51, Schow discloses to gather this information, the service provider employs a network, management server, which is programmed to request, process, and analyze information received from the locations being monitored).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Cook in view of Schow to provide the information management server comprises management information calculating means for calculating management information on the basis of the service information received from the terminals. One would be motivated to do so to allow information as to the operating status of various portions of the managed frame network (abstract).

As to claim 9, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 8, wherein the service selecting means decides available services on the basis of a list of the business machine network terminals necessary for the services and information on the business machine network terminals connected to the network (column 14, lines 17-29, Cook discloses... access providers provide a list of services that the user can select. With the list of services, the access

providers have the ability to advertise specific services users. The list of services may be generated based on the user access profile to make the list user specific. Once the user makes the selection, the access server 524 connects the user to the service network such as Intranet, Internet, or private dedicated network that provides the selected service).

As to claim 10, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 9, wherein the business machine network terminal further comprises input means with which a user of the terminal can make an entry (abstract, Cook discloses...the local database system receives a user logon...).

As to claim 12, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 9, wherein the management information is accounting information on the business machine network terminals (column 19, lines 60-63, Cook discloses the access provider verifies the prepaid account code before providing the access. A prepaid account code is any number that relates to a user's prepaid account).

As to claim 13, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 9, wherein the information management server further comprises user information managing means for authenticating users of the services (column 23, lines 4-6, Cook discloses the local database system 590 uses the user authentication system 593 for authentication and authorization).

As to claim 14, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 13, wherein the user information managing means authenticates the users and the periods for which the users can use the services (column 12, lines 23-25, Cook discloses the database system 522 identifies and authenticates the user and the network device 512 in step 920).

6.   Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cook U.S. 6,697,806 in view of Schow U.S. 6,751,226, and further in view of Motoyama U.S. 6,473,812.

Cook teaches the invention substantially as claimed including access network authorization (see abstract).

As to claim 11, Cook teaches the business machine network information management system defined in claim 9.

Cook fails to teach the management information includes use histories of the business machine network terminals.

However, Motoyama teaches the management information includes use histories of the business machine network terminals (column 3, lines 12-13, Motoyama discloses FIG. 12C illustrates a data base used for keeping track of the history of various machines; column 10, lines 47-50, Motoyama discloses The service data base will be most complete about individual machines, contain a complete service history of each machine, and may be stored at a customer service division).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Cook in view of Schow further in view of Motoyama to provide the management information includes use histories of the business machine network terminals. One would be motivated to do so to allow shared information between a service department, engineering and design department, manufacturing department, and marketing department (abstract).

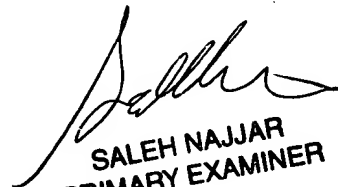**7.**   ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to El Hadji M Sall whose telephone number is 571-272-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-4010.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

El Hadji Sall
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2157

SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER